

### III. REMARKS

The description has been amended as requested. It is therefore no longer objectionable.

The Examiner is thanked for extending the courtesy of a telephone interview on March 2, 2004 during which it was agreed that Sudo is not a proper reference since its various dates are not early enough in view of the presently claimed priority date of June 21, 1999.

Thus the rejection of claims 1-4 under 35 USC 102 on Sudo should be withdrawn.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,

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March 9, 2004  
Date

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: 3/9/04

Signature: Carolina Rodriguez  
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